

Assignment I

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- **Prob 1 :** Consider a two-dimensional hexagonal lattice of lattice spacing $a = 3 \text{ \AA}$ and sound velocity $c = 10^3 \text{ m/sec}$. What is the Debye frequency, ω_D ? (Provide a numerical value in sec^{-1} .)
- **Prob 2 :** Consider a linear chain consists of polarizable molecules which are separated by lattice spacing a . The molecules are fixed to their position, but they have an internal degree of freedom described by the equation of motion

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} = -\omega_0^2 p + E\alpha\omega_0^2,$$

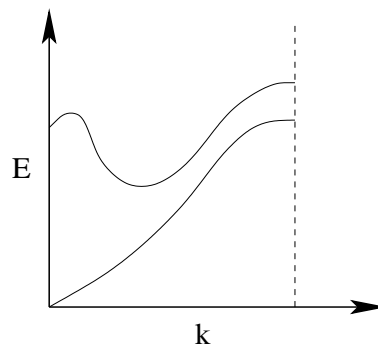
where p is the electric dipole moment of the molecule (assumed to be parallel to the chain), E is the local electric field, and α is the polarizability. Each molecule feels the electric field of the others. The system is at zero temperature, and quantum effects are small. Calculate and plot the dispersion curve $\omega(k)$ for small amplitude polarizatin waves (optical phonons). discuss the behavior of $\omega(k = 0)$ as a function α .

- **Prob 3:** Consider an one-dimensional chain of atoms with a lattice spacing of a . Each atom is represented by the potential $V(x) = aV_0\delta(x)$. Show that the electron energy E and wavenumber k satisfy the relationship

$$\cos(ka) = \frac{\kappa}{K} \sin(Ka) + \cos(Ka)$$

where $K^2 = 2mE/\hbar^2$ and $\kappa = \alpha V_0$. Determine the coefficient α .

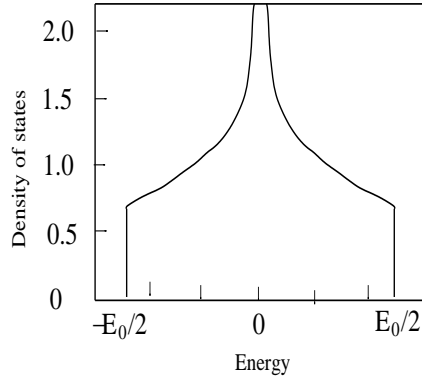
- **Prob 4:**



Show that as long as time reversal symmetry or inversion symmetry is preserved a band overlap (see above figure) is not allowed in one dimesion.

(Hint : Note the difference of the Schrödinger equation in 1D compared to higher dimension)

• **Prob 5:**



The density of states for a two-dimensional system of electrons with the "tight-binding" band structure $E(k) = -E_0(\cos k_x a + \cos k_y a)/4$ is shown in above figure. Investigate the density of states in the neighbourhood of $E = 0$. (In the figure the total area under the curve is normalized to 1.)

(Hint : Note that the density of states is the line integral in \mathbf{k} -space over an equipotential line i.e $\rho(\epsilon) = \oint \frac{dl}{|\partial E/\partial \mathbf{k}|}$. However one can use other method of calculating the density of states.)

• **Prob 6:**The Hamiltonian for the anisotropic Heisenberg model is

$$H = - \sum_{i,j} [J'_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z + \frac{1}{2} J_{ij} (S_i^+ S_j^- + S_i^- S_j^+)].$$

Now consider a one-dimensional system with nearest-neighbour interactions.

$$H = - \sum_i [J' S_i^z S_{i+1}^z + \frac{1}{2} J (S_i^+ S_{i+1}^- + S_i^- S_{i+1}^+)].$$

and ferromagnetic coupling, $J > 0, J' > 0$.

(a) Show that for $J' > J$ the magnon wavefunctions are similar to the isotropic Heisenberg model solutions, but they have a nonzero energy at $k = 0$.

(b) Show that $J' < J$ the ferromagnetically ordered state (with magnetization aligned in the z direction) is *not* the ground state of the Hamiltonian.

• **Prob 7:** Calculate the leading term in the temperature dependence of the chemical potential for two dimensional free electron gas.